

Government Engineer upon the North Shore Railway, and his permanent official connection therewith, have already proved, and must continue to prove to be the greatest misfortunes that could have befallen the Government and people of the Province of Quebec, in connection with that most important Enterprise.

It will also become apparent, by a perusal of these documents, that the course taken by the Government Engineer, during the Fall and Winter of 1874, and the Spring of 1875, was such, that the Provincial Government and the City of Quebec refused to pay, upon the current estimates, their respective quotas of the subsidies which had been granted in aid of the Railway; and that the Contractor was consequently obliged to suspend the work; and the Railway Company was compelled, by the force of circumstances, to abandon the Enterprise, and to place it at the disposal of the Provincial Government.

During the summer of 1875, a new contract was entered into between the Government and the Contractor, by the terms of which, and of the subsequent law which sanctioned it, the work was placed under the control of three Railway Commissioners to be appointed by the Government; and the Government Engineer was clothed with the powers, which, under the original contract, had been vested in the Chief Engineer of the Railway Company.

During the latter part of January, 1876, the Government appointed three Commissioners to supervise in